

NOV 12 2002

**TRANSMITTAL LETTER**  
(General - Patent Pending)

Docket No.  
112713-108

In Re Application Of: Meluch et al.

Serial No.  
09/767,558

Filing Date  
January 22, 2001

Examiner  
A. Fortuna

Group Art Unit  
1723

Title: **MELT-SPUN POLYSULFONE SEMIPERMEABLE MEMBRANES AND METHODS FOR MAKING THE SAME**

TO THE ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS:

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**TC 1700**

Transmitted herewith is:

**Response to Office Action (4 pgs.); and return receipt postcard.**

in the above identified application.

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*Signature*

Dated: November 7, 2002

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THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

7/17/Respon  
11/18/02  
J. Butler

Applicant(s): Meluch et al.  
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Docket No.: ALT-5612 CON of DIV I

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

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RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

Sir:

Please enter the following Response in the above-identified patent application.

REMARKS

In the Office Action, Claims 5-15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph; and Claims 1-18 are rejected under 37 C.F.R. § 102 or 103. Applicants respectfully submit that the rejections are improper for the reasons set forth below.

At the outset, Claims 5-15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph as previously discussed. The Patent Office alleges that Claim 5 is unclear as to whether a membrane made from the claimed composition is intended or as to whether the non-solvent is present in the final membrane.

Contrary to the Patent Office's position, Applicants believe that independent Claim 5 and thus Claims 6-15 which depend from Claim 5 are clear in meaning and scope. Claim 5 specifically requires that the polysulfone semipermeable membrane includes, in part, a mixture of a polysulfone compound, a solvent and a non-solvent. As fully supported in the specification on page 11, if present the concentration of a non-solvent is preferably at least about one weight percent, more preferably at least about five weight percent. Therefore, Applicants believe that Claims 5-15 as presently pending clearly satisfy the requirements pursuant to 35 U.S.C. § 112.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection be withdrawn.